

Storage System

Field Of The Invention

[0001] The present invention relates to storage and organizational systems and devices, and more particularly to storage and organizational systems and devices for
5 storing home and garden tools or the like.

Background Of The Invention

[0002] In modern American suburbia, the garage has become the storage receptacle for a myriad of items that are necessary for work and recreation. The need
10 for this storage space has become so acute that many suburban dwellings contain a 3-car garage even though the occupants own only two vehicles. Although, in many instances a recreational vehicle or boat occupies the third bay; in most cases, that extra space is utilized for storage and as a work area. Items such as sports equipment, gardening implements, and work shop related items, e.g., screwdrivers,
15 hammers, wrenches, hand and power tools, and other implements for home, vehicle, or garden repair and maintenance are generally stored in the garage.

[0003] There are a number of systems for storing relatively small and lightweight articles known in the art. For example, pegboard or perforated panel systems are known for hanging articles in a vertical or horizontal orientation using pegboard hooks
20 that are removably attached to a perforated panel. Shelving may also be provided on pegboards using the same or similar structures for securing and supporting the shelf to the pegboard. Prior art perforated panel systems (known as "pegboards") typically

comprise a pressed composite board material with regularly spaced circular perforations into which hooks may be inserted for the storage or display of tools, instruments, and other articles. Changing the locations of the stored articles requires that the hooks or shelf-supports be removed completely from their respective supporting holes in the pegboard, and then reinserted into other holes. After a period of use, the holes tend to become worn and enlarged, and eventually become unable to retain the hooks. Also, the hooks are easily misplaced or lost. These pegboard systems are also aesthetically unattractive, especially after many years of use.

[0004] A wide variety of useful fasteners for holding items to walls are also well known in the art. When attaching items to a perforated wall or pegboard, however, the available fasteners are much fewer in number, and those that are available have many severe drawbacks. Those who use pegboards are also familiar with the frustration and irritation associated with an insecure hook. Such fasteners often pull off the pegboard and get lost or damaged, especially when only one or two items are held. The typical pegboard fastener is a straight single or double bar, usually extending from about two inches to about six inches from the pegboard. A pegboard fastener of this type usually has a pair of bent rod-like offset hooked portions at its top. These offset hooked portions are inserted into horizontally adjacent holes, by a pivoting action, to situate the top tip of the hooked portions behind the wallboard while allowing the lower part of the fastener to rest against the front surface of the wallboard.

[0005] While the use of a pair of hooked portions may inhibit rotation of the pegboard fastener, it does not avoid the frustration experienced when the pegboard

fastener itself is pulled off the pegboard along with the item being removed. Those who encounter such fasteners or holders for hanging items experience frustration and irritation when attempting to remove the item from the fastener, since the bottom portion of the fastener is easily pulled away from the wall surface, i.e., there is no provision for fixing it to the pegboard.

[0006] Therefore, it would be advantageous to have a storage system which allowed ease of accessibility to tools, such as gardening implements, while maximizing the use of garage space, in an aesthetically satisfying manner. It would also be advantageous to have a storage system that could be mounted directly to the walls of a typical garage or tool shed, thereby allowing effective use of available space while removing sports equipment, gardening implements, and work shop related items from the floor space of the garage or a tool shed.

Summary Of The Invention

15 [0007] In one embodiment of the invention, a shelf and bracket assembly is provided that is to be supported upon a planar panel having a front surface, a rear surface, and a plurality of regularly shaped and spaced perforations. The shelf has two end edges and the two shelf-brackets each include a substantially circumferential flange, a receptacle portion for receiving one of the end edges of the shelf, and an upper panel catch and a lower panel catch that project outwardly from a same side of the circumferential flange in aligned spaced relation to one another. Each of the upper panel-catch and the lower panel-catch: (i) have a lock-tab projecting toward an outer

surface of the circumferential flange, and (ii) are sized so as to be received within one of the plurality of regularly shaped and spaced perforations. A lock-release latch is positioned adjacent to the lower panel-catch so as to project from an end of the circumferential flange toward the lower panel-catch. Each lock-release latch

5 comprises a cantilevered beam including a lock-release tab positioned at a free end. When each of the upper and lower panel-catches are inserted through and occupy a corresponding one of the perforations in the panel, such that each of the lock-release tabs of the lock-release latches engages the outer surface of the perforated panel thereby deflecting the lock-release latches away from the perforated panel, the shelf

10 and brackets are moved relative to the perforated panel. This movement causes the lock-tabs to engage the rear surface of the perforated panel and the lock-release tabs of the lock-release latches to slide along the front surface and slip into the respective perforations occupied by the lower panel catches. This, in turn, allows the lock-release latches to spring-back and the lock-release tabs to enter the perforations occupied by

15 their respective lower panel catches so as to secure the bracket in locked engagement with the perforated panel.

[0008] In another embodiment of the invention, a storage system is provided of the type including a planar panel having a plurality of regularly spaced perforations that are adapted to receive fasteners for holding items on the panel. A shelf having two

20 end edges and being supported upon the perforated panel by two shelf-brackets is provided wherein each of the shelf-brackets comprises a substantially circumferential flange forming an outer surface, a receptacle portion for receiving one of the end edges of the shelf, and an upper panel catch and a lower panel catch projecting

outwardly from a same side of the circumferential flange in aligned spaced relation to one another. Each of the upper panel-catch and the lower panel-catch have a lock-tab projecting toward the outer surface. A lock-release latch is also included that comprises a cantilevered beam including a lock-release tab positioned at a free end.

- 5 The lock-release latch is positioned adjacent to at least one of the upper panel-catch and the lower panel-catch so as to project from an end of the substantially circumferential flange toward at least one of the upper panel-catch and the lower panel-catch.

10 Brief Description Of The Drawings

[0009] These and other features and advantages of the present invention will be more fully disclosed in, or rendered obvious by, the following detailed description of the preferred embodiments of the invention, which are to be considered together with the accompanying drawings wherein like numbers refer to like parts and further

15 wherein:

[0010] Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a storage system formed in accordance with the present invention;

[0011] Fig. 2 is a further embodiment of the storage system shown in Fig. 1;

[0012] Fig. 3 is another variation of the storage system shown in Figs. 1 and 2;

20 [0013] Fig. 4 is a broken-away, perspective view of a perforated panel and item holder formed in accordance with the present invention;

[0014] Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a novel item holder formed in accordance

with the present invention;

[0015] Fig. 6 is a perspective view of a shelf-bracket system formed in accordance with the present invention;

[0016] Fig. 7 is a perspective view of a shelf used in connection with the shelf-
5 bracket of Fig. 6;

[0017] Fig. 8 is an end view of the shelf shown in Fig. 7;

[0018] Fig. 9 is an end view of the shelf and bracket shown in Fig. 5, as assembled to a perforated panel of the present invention;

[0019] Fig. 10 is a novel hook adapted for mounting on a perforated panel in
10 accordance with the present invention;

[0020] Fig. 11 is a perspective view of two hooks being inserted into a portion of a perforated panel in accordance with the present invention;

[0021] Fig. 12 is a partially broken-away, perspective view of a shelf and shelf-bracket system assembled in accordance with the present invention, and having a
15 hook and container assembled to an interior structure;

[0022] Fig. 13 is an end view of the shelf, bracket, and hook assembly shown in Fig. 12;

[0023] Fig. 14 is a perspective view of the item holder shown in Fig. 4, having a plurality of containers assembled to its underside;

20 [0024] Fig. 15 is a perspective view of one of the containers shown in Fig. 14;

[0025] Fig. 16 is an end view of the shelf, self-bracket and container assembly shown in Fig. 14;

[0026] Fig. 17 is a perspective view of the item holder shown in Fig. 4, having a roll of material supported under the shelf and by the two shelf-brackets;

[0027] Fig. 18 is a support rod used to support a roll of material as shown in Fig. 17;

5 [0028] Fig. 19 is a perspective view, partially in phantom, of the rod and roll shown in Fig. 17, with the shelf and brackets removed for clarity of illustration;

[0029] Fig. 20 shows another embodiment of the item holder shown in Fig. 4, and having a tool holder formed within the shelf;

[0030] Fig. 21 is a perspective view of a tool holder of the type shown in Fig. 20;

10 [0031] Fig. 22 is a cross-sectional view of the tool holder, as taken along lines 22-22 in Fig. 21;

[0032] Fig. 23 is a cross-sectional view of the tool holder similar to Fig. 22, having a tool mounted within the tool holder;

[0033] Fig. 24 is a post bracket that may be mounted to a perforated panel
15 formed in accordance with the present invention by use of the lock button shown in Fig. 24;

[0034] Fig. 25 is a receptacle support bracket;

[0035] Fig. 26 is a perspective view of a lock-button used in accordance with the present invention;

20 [0036] Fig. 27 is a perspective view of a receptacle support bracket as shown in Fig. 25, supporting a plurality of open faced receptacles;

[0037] Fig. 28 is an angle shelf formed in accordance with the present invention;

[0038] Fig. 29 and Fig. 30 are an item support and item receptacle, respectively, both formed so as to be mounted to the face of a perforated panel, as shown in Figs. 1-4.

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Detailed Description Of The Preferred Embodiment

[0039] This description of preferred embodiments is intended to be read in connection with the accompanying drawings, which are to be considered part of the entire written description of this invention. The drawing figures are not necessarily to scale and certain features of the invention may be shown exaggerated in scale or in somewhat schematic form in the interest of clarity and conciseness. In the description, relative terms such as "horizontal," "vertical," "up," "down," "top" and "bottom" as well as derivatives thereof (e.g., "horizontally," "downwardly," "upwardly," etc.) should be construed to refer to the orientation as then described or as shown in the drawing figure under discussion. These relative terms are for convenience of description and normally are not intended to require a particular orientation. Terms including "inwardly" versus "outwardly," "longitudinal" versus "lateral" and the like are to be interpreted relative to one another or relative to an axis of elongation, or an axis or center of rotation, as appropriate. Terms concerning attachments, coupling and the like, such as "connected" and "interconnected," refer to a relationship wherein structures are secured or attached to one another either directly or indirectly through intervening structures, as well as both movable or rigid attachments or relationships, unless

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expressly described otherwise. The term "operatively connected" is such an attachment, coupling or connection that allows the pertinent structures to operate as intended by virtue of that relationship. In the claims, means-plus-function clauses are intended to cover the structures described, suggested, or rendered obvious by the written description or drawings for performing the recited function, including not only structural equivalents but also equivalent structures.

[0040] Referring to Figs. 1-3, a new and improved storage and organization system 5 is provided comprising a perforated panel 8, storage cabinets 10, bench 12, drawers 13, and shelves 15. Storage system 5 is modular in construction such that various combinations of shelves, drawers, and cabinets may be arranged as needed or dictated by its position within a building, e.g., a residential garage, tool shed, or basement area. Storage cabinets 10, bench 12, drawers 13, and shelves 15 are typically formed of common furniture construction materials, e.g., various metals, woods, or polymers. Perforated panel 8 comprises a planer sheet of material, preferably formed of metal, and having a plurality of regularly shaped perforations 9, disposed in a regular pattern throughout the panel. Perforations 9 are each preferably formed in perforated panel 8 so as to be defined by a circumferential edge, often forming a rectangular or square opening in panel 8. Perforated panel 8 is typically about one quarter to one half of an inch thick, and in modules about two to three feet wide. Of course, it will be understood that perforated panel 8 may have various lengths and widths, depending upon the size of storage system 5. Fixtures (not shown) for providing electric, gas, or pneumatic outlets may also be positioned anywhere within storage system 5.

[0041] Referring to Figs. 1-4, perforated panel 8 is arranged above bench 12 so that a plurality of item holders 20 may be positioned on the front surface of perforated panel 8. For convenience, in this specification, the term "item holder" will be used to represent a type of fixture that is attachable to perforated panel 8 by insertion of an
5 element into at least one of perforations 9 and used to hold various implements, i.e., hand tools, garden tools, instruments, wires, cables, display objects (such as packages, blister display packs, vacuum display packs, loose hardware or household items, grocery items, department or variety store items, and shelves, pictures, wire frames, and the like. In one preferred embodiment, item holder 20 comprises a shelf
10 26 held to perforated panel 8, via shelf-brackets 30.

[0042] Referring to Figs. 5 and 6, shelf-brackets 30 comprise a circumferential flange 31 having a top surface 32, an outward face 36, a bottom 34, and an inner wall 35. A lower web 38 is positioned between outward face 36, bottom 34, and inner wall 35. Shelf-brackets 30 are preferably formed from an injection moldable polymer, but
15 may also be formed from metal or other materials as desired. A plurality of openings 39 are defined through lower web 38, often having varying diameters. An upper web 40 is positioned between top surface 32 and lower web 38. A ledge 44 projects outwardly in circumferential surrounding relation to upper web 40, thereby separating upper web 40 from lower web 38 and forming a receptacle portion for receiving an end
20 edge of shelf 26. A plurality of holes 46 are defined through upper web 40. An upper panel-catch 48 and a lower panel-catch 49 project outwardly from the outer surface of inner wall 35. Each of upper panel-catch 48 and lower panel-catch 49 comprise a

substantially "hook" shape having a lock-tab 52 projecting toward the outer surface of inner wall 35.

[0043] Adjacent to lower panel-catch 49 is a lock-release latch 50, including a lock-release cantilever 54 that projects from an end of inner wall 35. A lock-release
5 tab 56 is positioned at the free end of lock-release cantilever 54. A recessed wall 58 is positioned in spaced relation to lock-release cantilever 54, so as to provide a recess within shelf-bracket 30 into which lock-release cantilever 54 may deflect.

[0044] Referring to Figs. 7 and 8, shelf 26 comprises end edges 60, a top support surface 63, a nose 65, a panel flange 67, and a pair of semi-tubular
10 receptacles 68. More particularly, shelf 26 comprises a substantially channel shape, and may be formed by extrusion of a suitable metal or polymer, e.g., aluminum or polyvinyl chloride. Top support surface 63 separates nose 65 from panel flange 67 such that each forms a longitudinal edge of shelf 26. Nose 65 and panel flange 67 are arranged in spaced parallel relation to one another. Receptacles 68 are positioned
15 in spaced relation to the inner surfaces of nose 65 and panel flange 67, and are supported atop stems 70 so as to project inwardly. Each receptacle 68 comprises a semi-tubular cross-section defining a longitudinally extending slot 69. A rear ledge 72 is formed at the lower extremity of panel flange 67, in spaced relation to top support surface 63. A front ledge 74 is formed at the lower extremity of nose 65, and is
20 arranged in end-on, confronting relation to ledge 72.

[0045] Referring to Fig. 9, item holder 20 is assembled to perforated panel 8 in the following manner. A shelf-bracket 30 is positioned on each end of shelf 26 so that

upper web 40 is disposed in aligned confronting relation to an end edge 60 of shelf 26. In this position, face 36 of each shelf-bracket 30 extends downwardly from nose 65 of shelf 26. Each shelf-bracket 30 is then moved toward its respective end edge 60, until shelf 26 engages upper web 40. In this position, panel ledge 72 and front ledge 74 are
5 positioned in supporting and engaged relation to ledge 44 of shelf-bracket 30. Once assembled, screws (not shown) may be inserted through holes 46 in upper web 40 and into receptacle 68 so as to retain shelf-brackets 30 to shelf 26.

[0046] Once item holder 20 is fully assembled, it may be positioned anywhere on perforated panel 8 in the following manner. Each panel-catch 48, 49 of each shelf-
10 bracket 30 is positioned in coaxial aligned relation with a corresponding set of four perforations 9 in perforated panel 8. In this position, lock-release tab 56 is positioned in confronting relation to the front surface of perforated panel 8, directly above the perforation 9 with which its corresponding lower panel-catch 49 is aligned. Once in this position, item holder 20 is moved toward perforated panel 8 until upper panel-catches
15 48 enter, pass through, and occupy their respective perforation 9. As this occurs, lower panel-catches 49 enter, pass through, and occupy their respective perforations 9. At the same time, lock-release tab 56 engages the front surface of perforated panel 8 directly adjacent to the perforation 9 that is occupied by lower panel-catch 49.

[0047] Once in this position, item holder 20 is moved toward perforated panel
20 8 until the outer surface of inner wall 35 engages the outer surface of perforated panel 8. In this position, panel-catches 48 and 49 are fully inserted within perforations 9, and lock-release latch 50 is deflected inwardly, toward recessed wall 58 of shelf-bracket

30. Item holder 20 is then moved downwardly, so that lock-tabs 52 move across the edge of perforated panel 8 that defines perforation 9, and into engagement with the rear surface of perforated panel 8 (as shown in Fig. 9). As this occurs, lock-release tab 56 of lock-release latch 50 slides along the front surface of perforated panel 8, and across the peripheral edge of perforation 9 into which lower panel-catch 49 has been previously inserted. As this occurs, lock-release cantilever 54 is released so as to move outwardly, away from recessed wall 58, such that lock-release tab 56 slides along the edge of perforated panel 8 that defines perforation 9, so as to secure shelf-bracket 30 in locked engagement with perforated panel 8. In order to remove item holder 20, it is necessary only to deflect lock-release cantilever 54 inwardly, toward recessed wall 58 and move item holder 20 upwardly relative to perforated panel 8. In this way, when lock-release tabs 56 disengage from their respective perforations 9, both shelf-brackets 30 may be slid outwardly, disengaging lock tabs 52, so that item holder 20 may be pulled from its position on perforated panel 8.

15 **[0048]** Item holder 20 may be used as a conventional shelf with various items being placed on top support surface 63. However, items may also be held beneath shelf 26, so as to advantageously store additional items. Referring to Figs. 10 and 11, a shelf hook 80 comprises a shank 82, a support arm 84, and a catch 86. More particularly, shank 82 and support arm 84 form a conventional hook of the type known for hanging tools and other items. Catch 86 comprises an upper cantilevered latch 88, a stabilizer tab 90, and a lower cantilevered latch 92. Upper cantilevered latch 88 and lower cantilevered latch 92 project outwardly from an upper portion of shank 82 and comprise a nose 93, a ramp 94, and a shoulder 95. Upper cantilevered latch 88 and

lower cantilevered latch 92 have a slightly curved profile defining opposed inner curved surfaces 96a and 96b, with stabilizer tab 90 projecting outwardly from shank 82 and positioned between inner surfaces 96a and 96b.

[0049] Hook 80 may be assembled to any perforation 9 within perforated panel

5 8, as shown in Fig. 11. More particularly, hook 80 is arranged adjacent to perforated panel 8, such that support arm 84 is directed away from the outer surface of perforated panel 8. In this position, catch 86 is arranged in coaxial aligned relation to a perforation 9. Hook 80 is then pivoted such that support arm 84 moves away from perforated panel 8, thereby sliding ramp 94 along the upper edge of its respective
10 perforation 9, until shoulder 95 slips behind that upper edge. Once in this position, hook 80 is reversely pivoted such that support arm 84 and shank 82 move toward perforated panel 8. As this occurs, the lower edge of perforated panel 8 that defines perforation 9 engages ramp 94 of lower cantilevered latch 92 and deflects lower cantilevered latch 92 toward upper cantilevered latch 88. As support arm 84 and
15 shank 82 of hook 80 continue their movement toward perforated panel 8, shoulder 95 of lower cantilevered latch 92 slips past the lower edge of perforated panel 8 that defines perforation 9, thus releasing lower cantilevered latch 92 to spring back to its original position, and thereby locking hook 80 to perforated panel 8. In order to remove hook 80 from perforated panel 8, it is only necessary to pivot hook 80
20 outwardly about catch 86 until shoulder 95 of lower cantilevered latch 92 slips past the lower edge of perforated panel 8 that defines perforation 9, so as to deflect lower cantilevered latch 92 and thereby release hook 80.

[0050] Referring to Figs. 12 and 13, hook 80 may also be assembled to

receptacle 68 within nose 65 or panel flange 67 in the following manner. Catch 86 is positioned so that stabilizer tab 90 is positioned in confronting relation to slot 69 of receptacle 68. Once in this position, hook 80 is moved toward receptacle 68 so that each nose 93 of upper and lower cantilevered latches 88,92 engage receptacle 68.

5 As this occurs, upper and lower cantilevered latches 88,92 deflect away from one another such that receptacle 68 slips between them and into engagement with inner curved surfaces 96a,96b. In this position, stabilizer tab 90 is positioned within slot 69 of receptacle 68. Hook 80 is then free to slide along receptacle 68 to any desired position.

10 **[0051]** Referring to Figs. 12, 14, 15, and 16, a container 100 may also be positioned on the underside of item holder 20. More particularly, container 100 comprises an open-ended receptacle having a front cantilevered latch 105a and a rear cantilevered latch 105b. Each cantilevered latch 105 comprises a shoulder 106, and a pair of spaced apart cam ears 107. Each cam ear 107 also includes a front ramp
15 108. Adjacent to each cam ear 107, on container 100 are upwardly projecting stops 109. In order to assemble container 100 to item holder 20, container 100 is positioned below shelf 26 such that cantilevered latches 105a,105b are disposed in confronting relation to panel ledge 72 and front ledge 74 of shelf 26. Once in this position, container 100 is moved toward the underside of shelf 26, until each front ramp 108 of
20 each cam ear 107 engages and slides along the edge of its respective panel ledge 72 and front ledge 74. As this occurs, cantilevered latches 105a,105b deflect inwardly until cam ear 107 clears its respective panel ledge 72 or front ledge 74. Once in this position, cantilevered latches 105a,105b spring outwardly, such that shoulders 106 slip

over panel ledge 72 and front ledge 74, respectively, to latch container 100 in place under shelf 26. Stops 109 are positioned on container 100 so as to slip between top edge 110 of the container and panel ledge 72 and front ledge 74 to help stabilize container 100 when it is attached to shelf 26. In order to remove container 100, one of cantilevered latches 105a, 105b is depressed inwardly so as to release shoulders 106 from engagement with front ledge 74, thereby releasing container 100.

[0052] Referring to Figs. 17, 18, and 19, a roll of material, e.g., paper towels, wrapping paper, plastic wrap, etc., may be suspended between shelf-brackets 30 and below shelf 26 for convenient access. More particularly, a rod 118 comprises a pair of supports 120 positioned at each end. Rod 118 is inserted through the roll of material, and supports 120 are inserted into support openings 39 within lower web 38 of each shelf-bracket 30.

[0053] Item holder 20 may also comprise a shelf 126 including a hand tool holder 130 that supports hand tools, e.g., screwdrivers, nutdrivers, awls, pliers, hand socket wrenches, etc., in an upright, vertical orientation, so as to improve the esthetics and accessibility of the tools (Figs. 20-23). More particularly, tool holder 130 is positioned within shelf 126, and comprises a top 132, a bottom 134, and a plurality of tubes 138 that are positioned between top 132 and bottom 134. A pair of tool support finger flanges 140 are positioned in top 132 and bottom 134, and within each tube 138. Each finger flange 140 comprises a plurality of resilient fingers 141 directed radially inwardly toward the central axis of tube 138. In this way, when a tool, e.g., screwdriver 129 in Figs. 4 and 23, is inserted through tool holder 130, its shaft is held between

fingers 141 so that it does not wobble or flop over, and is readily accessible. Numerous holders 130 may be positioned within shelf 126, as needed. Moreover, shelf 126 is assembled to shelf-brackets 130 and perforated panel 8 in the same way that shelf 26 is assembled to shelf-brackets 30 and perforated panel 8.

5 **[0054]** Referring to Figs. 24-30, alternative item holders may be used in connection with storage system 5. For example, post bracket 148 or receptacle bracket 149 may be held in place on perforated panel 8 by lock buttons 150 (Fig. 26). More particularly, lock buttons 150 comprise a rectilinear cam 154, a face plate 156, and a tool receptacle 158. Lock buttons 150 are sized, shaped, and arranged so that
10 cam 154 may be slidably received within a perforation 9. More particularly, cam 54 is first positioned in coaxial-aligned relation with a correspondingly shaped perforation 19, positioned within post bracket 148 or receptacle bracket 149. Both lock button 150, post bracket 148 or receptacle bracket 149 are then positioned in engaged relation with perforated panel 8, such that perforations 9 and 19 are coaxially aligned.
15 Once in this position, lock button 150 is inserted through perforations 9 and 19, with rectilinear cam 154 oriented so as to correspond with the profile of perforations 9 and 19. Once inserted through perforations 9 and 19, face plate 156 is rotated, clockwise or counter-clockwise, by a tool inserted within tool mount 158, such that cam 154 rotates out of alignment with the edges of perforated panel 8 that define perforations
20 9 and 19.

[0055] Post bracket 148 may have a plurality of outwardly projecting posts, hooks, clamps, or a magnetic strip 160 (shown in Fig. 4 in connection with shelf 26) for

hanging various tools or materials, as needed. Likewise, such means for hanging tools may also be combined with shelves 26 or 126, as desired. Receptacle bracket 149 includes a hook 162 that is adapted to engage a corresponding hook on an open faced receptacle 168, that may be hung from receptacle bracket 148. Likewise, an angled shelf 170 may be assembled to perforated panel 8 via lock buttons 150 in a similar manner (Fig. 28).

[0056] Referring to Figs. 29 and 30, other item holders can be used in connection with storage system 5, such as dual hook support 180, or basket 182. More particularly, dual hook support 180 comprises a pair of hooks 184 that project outwardly from a back plate 186. A tab latch 187 projects downwardly from a bottom portion of back plate 186, and a latch cantilever 188 projects from a top of back plate 186. Dual hook 180 is assembled to perforated panel 8 by first inserting tab latch 187 into a perforation 9 of perforated panel 8. Back plate 186 is then pivoted about tab latch 187 until cantilever latch 188 is deflected into engagement with a corresponding perforation 9 in perforated panel 8.

[0057] Basket 182 is formed from a resilient polymer, and comprises a curved shell 183 having lower support tabs 190 projecting downwardly from a bottom surface and latch ears 192 projecting outwardly from the upper corner portions. To assemble basket 182 to perforated panel 8, latch ears 192 are deflected inwardly by pressing on the side walls of basket 182, while tabs 190 are inserted into respective holes 9. Basket 182 is then pivoted on tabs 190 until latch ears 192 are received within corresponding perforations 9. Once latch ears 192 are inserted within perforations 9,

basket 182 is released, allowing latch ears 192 to spring outwardly into engagement with perforated panel 8.

[0058] It is to be understood that the present invention is by no means limited only to the particular constructions herein disclosed and shown in the drawings, but
5 also comprises any modifications or equivalents within the scope of the claims.